

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for treating products, which may contain cellular material of eukaryotic and/or prokaryotic origin and in particular microorganisms, by bringing the product in a device comprising two electrodes connected to an electronic circuit such that a pulsating electrical field is created, wherein the rise time of each imposed voltage pulse is less than the electronic relaxation time of the product. Preferably, the rising edge of each cycle starts within the relaxation time of the product and each electrical field pulse has a duration shorter than the relaxation time of the product. Dependent on the type of product and the types of microorganisms contained in the product, the maximum field strength of each pulse, the repetition frequency and the number of cycles in the treatment are selected such that the target microorganisms are functionally inactivated leading to a shelf stable, microbiologically safe product.